



## Parlamento Hubenil urges the public to join the “Awareness Walk” against Child Abuse

Recently, Aruba’s Parlamento Hubenil (Youth Parliament) installed a new board, which announced that the cause to which the parliament will devote many of their projects in the coming year is the problem of child abuse. This past Friday, they announced their first public project, which will be a “caminata” or 5K “fun walk” skirting the town of Oranjestad on Sunday evening, August 5.

The purpose of this walk, as stated by President of the Youth Parliament, Jarrus Barry is not to raise funds, but “raise awareness” for a worldwide problem that proliferates because it is ignored by many. A number of Aruban citizens are very active in battling child abuse, not only on the island, but internationally, with organizations such as “Respecta mi” and Aruba’s own “Youth Hotline.”

This coming Sunday they offer the entire community the opportunity to show their concern by joining in the walk that will start at 6:00 PM from the Plaza Daniel Leo in the center of Oranjestad. The route will head north to the Ponton roundabout, down the Santa Helenastraat to L.G. Smith Boulevard, and from there back to town to finish at the Plaza Daniel Leo. Registration time to participate in the walk is at 5:00 PM that day, and there is no fee for joining the walk.

Present for the announcement of the fun walk was Alajandro Muyali, Directing Manager of Tiara Airlines, which has donated the funds for 300 tee shirts that will be distributed to the first participants to sign up. Additionally present was Mariaine Arends-Croes representing Valero Refinery Aruba, which donated 1500 florins towards future projects of the Parlamento Hubenil.

The board members of the Parlamento Hubenil expressed their strong belief in the importance of this cause and the need for recognition and participation by all in combating the continuing detrimental effects of child abuse to families and society. They urge everyone to join them on August 5, and for more information and publications about this problem, suggest individuals visit their offices in the back of the Voogdijraad building at Avenida Milo Croes 112, or call 588-6860 or 588-0810.